

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 5 Dec. 1951

SUBJECT Iron Works, Trinec

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The Iron Works at Trinec (050/087) has five blast furnaces and a sixth is under construction. The daily output of the works is roughly 2,000 tons.* The rolling mill maintains 72 percent of the planned production, while the production of crude iron is only 90 percent of normal capacity because of a shortage of quality ores. Deliveries of Swedish ores are irregular and small, and the ore delivered from the USSR (about 4,000 tons daily) contains only about 33 percent iron. Moreover, the Russian ore is so full of dust particles that improper fusing results and the blast furnaces become clogged and frequently explode. An installation to prevent the clogging of furnaces during the processing of ore is under construction.

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2. There is a permanent shortage of anthracite coal because most of the black coal mines have been completely exploited, and no attempts have been made to find new deposits. The total consumption of black coal is about 4,000 tons daily.
3. About 35 percent of the employees at the Iron Works are organized in the KSC. Dissatisfaction among workers has resulted in strikes, which become more frequent as the unrest grows.

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- * Comment: This plant belongs to Banska a Hutni National Corporation. the fifth blast furnace was completed in October 1948. The daily output reported above is believed to include open-hearth steel only. It appears to be low.

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